



Facts About Medical Gas Piping Installer Endorsement

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Labor and Industries administers the regulations for medical gas piping installer endorsement for journeyman plumbers. Anyone who works in the medical gas piping trade must be endorsed and maintain an active state of Washington journeymen plumber certification. Individuals learning to install medical gas piping are required to carry trainee certificates.

This requirement is described in detail in section 18.106 of the Revised Code of Washington.

“Medical gas piping systems” are piping systems that convey or involve oxygen, nitrous oxide, high-pressure nitrogen, medical compressed air and medical vacuum systems.

How do I become endorsed to install medical gas piping?

Only journeyman plumbers holding active state of Washington certification may apply for the medical gas piping installer endorsement. Applicants applying for medical gas endorsement must submit a certificate of completion of 32 hours of training from a course approved by the department along with an application and applicable fees.

Is a separate examination necessary for other Washington jurisdictions?

No. A medical gas piping installer endorsement by the department grants the holder the right to work throughout the state without additional proof of competency or an additional permit or fee.

Must my training have taken place in Washington State?

No. As long as your training meets the requirement to test in this state, your documentation may be from other states or countries. You must submit a copy of your completion of medical gas training. Hours of experience will not be accepted in lieu of an approved training course completion.

Does military or technical experience count toward medical gas endorsement?

No. As provided in RCW 18.106, you must complete at least 32 hours of *training* from a department-approved training course.

I want to work immediately. Can I get a temporary endorsement for medical gas piping installer?

No. Completion of 32 hours of department-approved training is required. A medical gas piping installer endorsement is required to perform the installation, alteration or repair of medical gas piping within a building.

Once I am endorsed do I have to renew my endorsement? What if it expires?

Your endorsement must be renewed every year on or before your birthday. You must provide the department with the applicable renewal fee and an affidavit of continuity verifying that brazing has been performed within the last year. Failure to renew within 90 days will result in suspension and require re-testing.

Under what circumstances can Labor and Industries revoke my endorsement?

Your endorsement could be revoked for the following reasons:

- The endorsement was obtained through error or fraud.
- The holder is judged to be incompetent.
- The holder violates any of the provisions of RCW 18.106.

Will my endorsement allow me to advertise and do small jobs?

No. State law defines such work as contracting, which requires a different registration.

RCW 18.27.010 (1) defines contracting as “any person, firm, or corporation who or which, in the pursuit of an independent business undertakes to, or offers to undertake, or submits a bid to, construct, alter, repair, add to, subtract from, improve, move, wreck or demolish, for another, permanent real estate property.” Failure to comply with RCW 18.27.100, RCW 18.27.114 or RCW 18.27.200 may result in an infraction and/or a penalty.

May I supervise medical gas piping installer trainees on the job site?

Yes. You may supervise trainees under the following conditions and ratios of journeyman plumber with medical gas endorsement to certified trainees:

- You must have an active Washington State Journeyman Plumber certificate and an active medical gas piping installer endorsement.
- One certified trainee for every certified journeyman plumber and medical gas piping installer endorsement.
- Trainees installing medical gas must be supervised 100 percent of the time on a one-to-one ratio (one journeyman plumber with medical gas endorsement to one certified trainee).

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